

The unfinished business being the report of the committee on labor and agriculture, was then taken up.

Sections 3 and 4 were struck out, and the following substitute in lieu of them, offered by Mr. Lee, was adopted: "He shall perform such of the duties now devolved by law upon the commissioner of immigration and the immigration agent as will promote the object for which those officers were appointed, and such other duties as may be assigned to him by the General Assembly, and shall receive a salary of \$2,500 per year, and after his election and qualification, the offices before mentioned shall cease."

Section 5 was passed over without amendment.

Section 6, now section 5, was struck out.

Mr. Hollyday proposed the following substitute:

"He shall inquire into the undeveloped resources of wealth of the State of Maryland, more especially concerning those within the limits of the Chesapeake bay and its tributaries, which belong to the State, and suggest such plans as may be calculated to make them available as sources of revenue."

Mr. Brown said it was very manifest that all of them were anxious to do something to promote the interests of the good old State of Maryland, but what were they about to do? Everything, nothing. The report as it came from the committee had been cut down to the one subject of immigration, but it was now proposed to go into the whole industrial interests of the State. He believed in a minute knowledge of all the resources of the State, but thought it could be much better accomplished than by the establishment of such an office as this. It would be worse than useless.

Mr. Wallace spoke of the great importance of the oyster, fish and crab trade of the Chesapeake and its tributaries, and of the large number of people employed. There were thousands of acres now in Somerset, Dorchester and Worcester counties lying perfectly useless which would in a few years be equal in value to any lands on the Delaware or Christiana Creek. These lands would be as valuable as any in the State, if public attention was drawn to